

AN EFFECTIVE DISCIPLE-MAKER

1 Cor 4:14-21

1. He warns – A confronter v.14

Purpose of warning--protection in future

I write not these things to shame you: intimidate, embarrass, to make you cower and hide your faces.

His motive--not to embarrass them.

His motive--confrontation with truth.

Warn: put in mind by admonishing and warning.

To tell a person of danger, put someone on guard.

as my beloved sons. As family members

Ministry of warning important to one with spiritual responsibility over people.

Ezekiel 3:17-21; Acts 20:29-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:14

Eli-- Failed to effectively warn his sons

God killed them.

Eli's lost: Life, heritage, ministry.

1 Samuel 2:29 *honourest thy sons above me...*

2 Timothy 4:2; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

A warning must carry threat of consequences

Warning – Giving commandment with explanation of consequences if command violated.

2. Loves as a father v.14

... my beloved sons: my children, especially dear to me

Beloved: total giving, sacrificial love. Strongest kind of love.

Mac: *A love that is determined and willful, having the one purpose of serving the object of love.*

2 Corinthians 12:15

Balance: warning and fatherly love.

Paul felt intensely responsible for their spiritual welfare.

3. Wins souls--a soul-winner v. 15

Begotten you: procreated, delivered

Mac: *...A Christian cannot be a spiritual father without being used obey God to bring life to spiritual children.*

One of greatest tragedies in Christian's--going through life without every seeing spiritual offspring. .

Mac: *A Christian is one who has been given new life in Christ, and one of the most important characteristics of life is reproduction.*

John 15:16 **Matthew 28:19-20**

I have begotten you through the gospel.

Gospel: good news.

1 Corinthians 15:3- 4

4. Lives the life--an Example. vv. 16- 17

If he is a hypocrite ...children will disregard what trying to teach them.

Followers: mimics, imitators.

Paul probably best of disciple-makers in scriptures.

Always had man with him

Saw him as really was

Stress and pressure

Hungry, thirsty, tired

Sore, not feeling well.

A message prepared in the minds reaches minds

A message prepared in the heart reaches hearts

A message prepared in the life reaches lives

Paul describes Timothy in*faithful in the Lord*,

Timothy was a little Paul.

Goal in discipleship --- be like Christ.

Our disciples become like us.

of my ways lifestyle, actions, reactions, moods

5. Teaches. v.17

We live out what we believe...we believe what we've been taught.

Paul was an excellent teacher of the Word.

Teach: teach in such a way as people learn.

Not simply to impart facts but to bring about change.

A learning-enabler.

Boring – as dangerous as not teaching at all.

Deadness-- as dangerous as not teaching at all.

Never teach Bible Doctrine without teaching how to apply it.

Never teach or preach something that hasn't impacted you first.

Never teach without passion.

A teacher has not taught until the student has learned.

6. Disciplines. A disciplinarian. vv. 18-21

There are times when a spiritual father needs to give a spankin.

Proverbs 25:12 ...*a wise reprovew upon an obedient ear.*

Puffed up: Proud, boastful, arrogant, to puff up, be blown up... inflated

Upon arriving in Corinth...first job to call their bluff.

... *not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power.*

Not how much they talk about spiritual lives but how much they live the power of God.

v. 20 Kingdom of God: God's rule and authority. Manifestation of glory.

Mac: ...*A person's true spiritual character is not determined by the impressiveness of his words but by the power of his life.*

v. 21 Do you want me to come and deal with you harshly ...or in a loving and kind manner?

So what?

1. A confronter?
2. Love as a spiritual father?
3. A soul-winner?
4. Example?
5. Teacher?
6. Disciplinarian?